

Fall 2010

Special Points of Interest:

- Summer Events
- Back to School
- SRO Corner
- Faces of Sully

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Newsletter compiled by:
PFC P. B. Katinsky
and
Carol Burton

Open House Highlights

Approximately 400 citizens and officers defied high heat to celebrate Sully's Open House this summer.

Some of the police equipment on site were the Marine Unit patrol boat, SWAT truck, antique and modern police cruisers (including a miniature police car at the Crime Prevention table) and the seatbelt convincer.

There were also motorcycles, the Bomb Squad truck with robot and bomb dog. Not to mention, a visit from the police helicopter.

Vendors provided food, moon bounces, sand art and face painting. Station support staff handed out free popcorn, cotton candy and snow cones.

The Sheriff's Department was also present doing electronic child fingerprinting. The Fire Department, Animal Control and the False Alarm Reduction Unit also participated.





Bike Rodeo

The sun was hot but the bicycles were “cool” in early July as Sully-area Cub Scouts joined with the Sully bike team to learn safety tips and have fun at the Seventh Annual Bike Rodeo. It was held this year in the parking lot of the Chantilly National Golf and Country Club.

Approximately 150 Cub Scouts and siblings were greeted by Sully officers and Scout organizer, Maureen Tilliard. The officers checked the helmets of all riders and demonstrated proper hand signaling procedures. Then the scouts headed to the four different courses.

The courses, which were set off with orange cones, varied from a simple square that emphasized eye focus while turning, going through a serpentine course and graduating to the most challenging figure eight pattern. The final, optional course allowed scouts to race each other.

Several Boy Scouts and neighborhood boys from the Sully area assisted with providing food and drinks. They also assisted by pumping up tires and helping reposition bicycle chains.



National Night Out 2010

Twelve communities and a few hundred people within Sully's District participated this year in the National Night Out event.

The events were spread throughout the district. Celebrations included ice cream socials, block parties and pool parties.

National Night Out is celebrated in

the United States and Canada. It focuses on prevention of crime and drug activity and is held the first Tuesday in August of every year.

Officers, Police Explorers and McGruff the Crime Dog attended many of the events and socialized with community members.





Fall is here—School's Open

Beginning in early August and all the way through much of September, schools throughout the country begin welcoming students back from their summer hiatus. Here are some ideas to help keep your children safe:

1. Bus Stop. Your child's bus stop should be in an area that is well-lit, easily accessible, and away from traffic. If it is not, contact school administrators to have the stop moved. In some situations you may need to contact the school board instead. If you live in an area where there is heavy snowfall, make sure that the stop is sufficiently free of snow, ice, and related debris.

2. Clothing. Children should be wearing bright-colored clothing, especially if waiting for the bus before sunrise or getting home after dark. Place removable reflective tape on their outer garments including on their hats and coats.

3. Boarding. Teach your children to only move forward to board the school bus when it has come to a complete stop and the driver opens the door. Children should line up single file as they await entrance.

4. Seating. Virtually all school buses DO NOT come equipped with seatbelts, nor are seats strong enough to resist impact in the event of a crash. Teach your children to be seated at all times and facing forward. Study various brace positions to prepare for the possibility of an accident. Learn optional exit strategies including using the emergency door or windows.

5. Exiting. When exiting the bus, children must move far away from the vehicle to allow the driver to see that they have cleared the bus and are safely away from traffic. Instruct your children to stay away from the bus' rear wheels at all times.

6. Awareness.

Teach your children to be aware of other traffic in the area. Do not assume that drivers will stop for them or even see them. If children must cross the street, they are to do so only with the driver directing them. Have them constantly look both ways as they cross the street until they are safely on the other side.

Every year children die or are injured in school bus related accidents. Many die as a result of the school bus colliding with another vehicle while others are struck by oncoming traffic or because they fail to clear the immediate area around the bus and cannot be seen by the bus driver.

You can keep your child safe by raising their awareness of potential hazards while the rest of us can make school bus safety a priority and obey the rules of the road. Let's make this school year a safe one.



SRO Corner

School resource officers play a major part in the crime prevention / law enforcement element in our schools.

Each month officers will highlight significant police-related issues within the schools.

This month both MPO Munoz and MPO Chambers have advised that the biggest problem by far is theft of electronic devices (i.e., iPhones, iPods and cell phones).

This is a reoccurring problem and officers are reminding both parents and students that the best solution is to leave these items at home.

School Resource Officers for the Sully District

Centreville HS: PFC R. Call / rick.call@fairfaxcounty.gov

Westfield HS: MPO L. Munoz / luis.munoz@fairfaxcounty.gov

Mountain View HS: PFC V. Orantes / vitelio.orantes@fairfaxcounty.gov

Liberty MS: PFC J. Urie / james.urie@fairfaxcounty.gov

Rocky Run MS: MPO A. Chambers / amy.chambers@fairfaxcounty.gov

Stone MS: PFC S. Lawson / stephen.lawson@fairfaxcounty.gov



K-9 Krawl 5K

October 16th will mark the 4th annual K9 Krawl in Fairfax County, an event to heighten awareness of domestic violence and the link to animal cruelty.

The walk was designed as a healthy and appealing way to make the community aware of the impact that domestic violence has on families and its correlation with pet abuse.

The K-9 Krawl 5K was a vision that Kacey Kirkland from the Victim Services Section had been working on for quite some time and with the help of Detective Jacqi Smith from the Domestic Violence Unit, this vision became a reality.

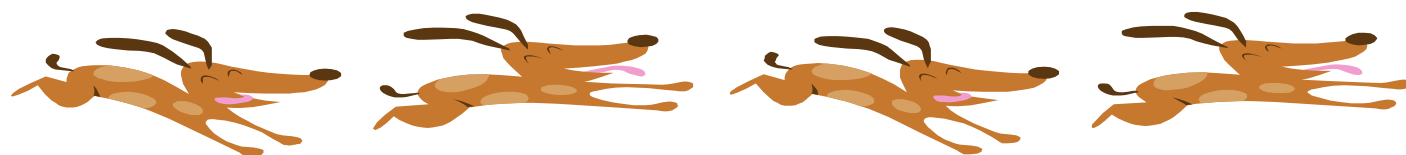
The event will provide goodie bags and a free raffle. There will also be domestic violence resource tables.

McGruff the Crime Dog will be in attendance as well as a Fairfax County K-9 and Bomb Dog Gracie.

The check-in will be at the Fairfax County Government Center starting at 8:30 a.m. The walk will begin, rain or shine, at 9 a.m.

Further information and sign up is available at 703-814-7009

This event is sponsored by the Fairfax County Police Department and the Victim Services Section.



Faces of Sully Station

The Sully Spotlight shines this month on PFC Mike Roberts who has become Sully station's first permanent Crime Scene Technician, a position which is now in four of the eight county stations.

PFC Roberts, 32, is a virtual native of Virginia, having moved to the Northern Virginia area as an infant. He, his wife and two children, reside today in the same area.

A graduate of Virginia Military Institute, he joined the Fairfax County Police Department in 2002. He has worked street patrol in both the

Franconia and Sully districts before being named to this slot.

He was named 'Officer of the Quarter' by the station's Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) the final quarter of 2009—primarily for forensic work done that helped close a motorcycle 'chop shop' operation in the Sully area.

PFC Roberts said that crime scene investigation is the area in which he has always wanted to work and that eventually he hopes to continue his career in this field as a Crime Scene Detective in the Major Crimes Division



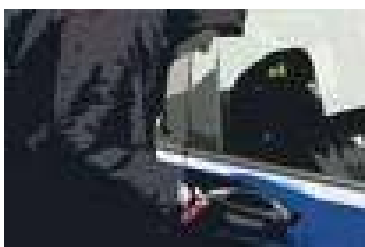
PFC Mike Roberts



Crime Report

Property crimes continue to be the biggest issue in Sully's district. More specifically, theft from vehicles. GPS units, wallets, purses, iPods and most recently laptop computers are the targeted items.

This type of crime can be drastically reduced if people would remove anything of value from their vehicles and LOCK the doors. We get a lot of reports where items were stolen from unlocked cars.



What can also help reduce crime in your community is to call the police for ANY suspicious people, activity or vehicles in your neighborhood. In two recent incidents, suspects were apprehended because an alert citizen called police.

Often times I hear "we didn't want to bother you" or "I wasn't sure if it was suspicious or not." First let me say that it's our job and you are not bothering us. Also, when in doubt call it in. Let us determine if something is suspicious or criminal in nature.



Police Non-Emergency 703-691-2131

Emergency 9-1-1

Did you know ?

Even though it seems like a minor offense to steal street signs, it is expensive to replace these items—and **it is a violation of law.**

According to Fairfax County Department of Public Works (DPWES) the estimate to replace two street signs and a pole is between \$250 and \$300 (\$218 for two signs and a pole and between \$60 and \$100 for installation).

The penalty could be up to a year in jail and/or a \$2,500 fine.

Street signs are the responsibility of Fairfax County. Stop signs, yield signs, median signs, speed limit signs are the responsibility of the Virginia Department of Transportation. Signs that advertise a gas station or eating establishment along an interstate or major highway are installed by a private company and typically the business owner contracts with it for installation of the sign.

If an individual observes a problem with a street sign (missing, leaning, etc.) they can report it to the link below.

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/utilities/streetsignform.htm

— Thanks to Supervisor Michael Frey's staff for assistance





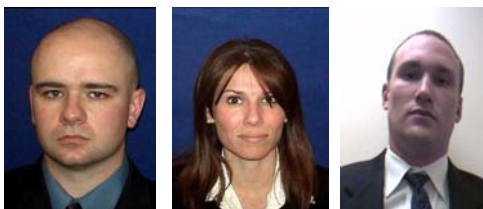
Station Happenings

Three officers were recognized this past quarter by Sully Station Commanders for their excellence in police work.

From left to right the officers are: PFC J. Wolosyn, PFC S. Masood and PFC S. Sykes.

PFC Wolosyn had the most DWI arrests (16), PFC Masood wrote the most tickets (114) and made the most misdemeanor criminal arrests (33). PFC Sykes made the most felony criminal arrests (12).

This quarterly recognition will highlight officers within the station. Not only for top statistics but for creativity and problem solving.



Recently Retired

Second Lieutenant John Absalon retired on July 30, 2010 after 27 years with the Fairfax County Police Department. He worked at the Mclean and Mason stations and completed his career at Sully.



Animal Control

Copperhead snake bites have been reported across Fairfax County. Copperheads are venomous snakes that are found here and throughout Virginia. Typically, reports of snake bites (and sightings) peak between August and October when baby copperheads are hatching.

Virginia is home to three poisonous species of snakes, the Timber Rattlesnake, the Cottonmouth and the Copperhead. It's important to remember that while death from snake bite in Virginia is extremely rare, they can be painful and cause a number of symptoms such as; swelling and bruising, sweating, weakness, nausea, vomiting, muscle twitching and a metallic taste in the mouth. It is important to seek medical attention if you or your pets are bitten.

It's almost that time of year for Whitetail deer mating (rutting) season.



This occurs from mid October through December. During this time male deer become very aggressive and oblivious to any obstacles to search for does—including traffic.

Drivers during this period are urged to become more aware of areas where deer might cross the roadway and drive with more caution.

....And let's not forget our family pets....

During extreme weather conditions, summer and winter, we need to remember to provide shelter from the harsh elements.

This past summer, a Chantilly resident was charged with animal cruelty for leaving a bulldog in the backyard without water or shelter. The dog subsequently died. The owner is facing a class 1 misdemeanor, punishable by up to a year in jail and/or a fine of \$2500. The case will be heard in late September.

For more information on copperheads or other local wildlife, please visit the Fairfax County Government website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/animals/wildlife. For more information, or to report a copperhead incident, contact Vicky Monroe the Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist at 703-324-0240.



CAC

The Citizens' Advisory Committee provides a means for the district station commander and police staff to hear citizens' concerns directly and provide information on police issues.

It also allows group members to share information with others in their residential, business, civic or church groups. It is a valuable bridge between the community and the police department.

Meetings are conducted the third Tuesday of the month from September through June except for December. Further information is available from PFC P. B. Katinsky at the Sully District Station, pkatin@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-814-7018.

CAC Notes — CAC will provide holiday meals for the Sully station officers as they have in previous years. The advisory committee is also in need of a volunteer secretary to take minutes of the monthly meetings.



Child Seat Inspections

Is your child seat installed properly? Is it the correct seat for your child's age and weight? Did you know that the Sully District Station offers free child seat inspections by certified technicians?

Certified technicians from the Sully District Police Station will perform free child safety seat inspections every other Thursday night from 5-8:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary; however, because of time constraints, only the first 35 vehicles arriving on each date will be inspected. Call **703-814-7000 ext. 5140** to confirm dates.

Our technicians request that you make an effort to install your child safety seats yourself, so that they may properly inspect and make adjustments, as necessary.



Other Events of Note:

- A candlelight vigil will be held to commemorate September 11, 2001. The hour-long event will be held at Fire Station 438 on Stone Road. beginning at 7:30 p.m. There will be bagpipers, speakers and representatives from Saint Veronica's Catholic Church.
- September CarFit Event — There will be a CarFit event for senior citizens on September 21 at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Participants will talk to a trained CarFit staff member to find out how the "fit" of the vehicle affects driving and how it can be adapted to each person's changing needs. Further information is available from Sarit Jemini at 703-537-3030.
- The Mott Community Center, 12111 Braddock Road, will host its annual "community day" on Saturday October 2. Further information is available from Director Miroslava Bolden at 703-278-8605.

Fall 2010

Sully District Police Station
4900 Stonecroft Boulevard
Chantilly, VA 20151

Main Phone 703-814-7000
Fax 703-814-7013

File a Report online
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/crs

To learn more about our police volunteer programs, just visit the Fairfax County Police website (search by keyword: VIPs, APO, Citizens Police Academy); or go directly to:

VIPs: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/citizencorps/vips.htm>

APO: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/jobs/auxiliarypoliceofficer.htm>

Citizens Police Academy:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/services/citizens-police-academy.htm>



A Fairfax County, Va.,
publication

Virginia Amber Alert

<http://www.vaamberalert.com>

Community Resources

Cut out and hang near your phone for easy reference

POLICE—Non-Emergency.....	703-691-2131
EMERGENCY	911
Sully District Police Station.....	703-814-7000
Center for Multicultural Human Services.....	703-533-3302
CrisisLink Crisis Hotline (Suicide, trauma, life crises).....	703-527-4077
Community Services Board (Prevention services).....	703-324-7000
Emergency Mental Health Services (24 hour).....	703-573-5679
Department of Family Services	703-324-7938
Fairfax Area Agency on Aging.....	703-324-7948
Neighborhood and Community Services.....	703-324-8336
Fairfax County Gang Coordinator.....	703-246-2396
Fairfax County Health Dept.....	703-246-2411
Fairfax County Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court.....	703-246-2495